

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

A Few Facts Concerning Its Methods.

AN INDEPENDENT BODY.

Something About Appropriations. Evidence of Past Favoritism. Average Salary of Employees.—Income Goes Into the Treasury.

MR. EDITOR:—Observing in this morning's issue the action of the Senate upon appropriations for the Board of Education, noticing the remarks made upon the matter by some members, and hearing a good deal of comment in town today, I beg that you will allow me space for some remarks on educational matters.

The position of the Board of Education is somewhat peculiar. Instead of being a bureau under any one of the departments of Government, it is an independent body, answerable directly to the Legislature. The whole course of legislation has, for many years, recognized this position, and there is nothing in it incompatible with a correct system of government, or the theories under which we live. By the law, the Board of Education makes a report to the Legislature direct. It has the sole and absolute control of all school lands and property. It has the authority to prescribe the rates of tuition in the schools, which power carries with it the right to abrogate school fees whenever it sees fit. It has the right by law to the control of all funds of the Education department, and to make such disposition of its funds as in its judgment seems best.

None of the laws have been amended by specific acts. But at present its position is somewhat anomalous. And this has been produced by a system which has everywhere been recognized as vicious. That is, by attaching a rider to an appropriation bill. This is accomplished in this way: An item, for instance, reads "Support of schools, \$250,000." To this is attached a few very simple words, "Provide that all receipts of the Board be paid into the treasury," thus nullifying the whole intent of the laws for the support of schools.

If it is the intention of the Government to change this system it should introduce an Act to carry it out.

It is complained that there is no one in the Legislature to represent the Board. This is a very great mistake. The Committee on Education should represent the Board. These committees ought to confer with the Board officers, and they will then be able to state correctly what is required. But so far as the action of the Senate of yesterday is concerned, the Education Committee does not seem to have been present. And I am informed that there has been not more than half an hour's conference any way.

Minister Damon says: "The great fault with the school was the absence of a proper system of grading salaries of school teachers. That there was more or less favoritism in fixing the salaries." He must have been thinking of the time when he was a member of the Board of Education.

Mr. Cecil Brown seems to have backed up this statement. But here are the facts: During the days of the Provisional Government, when Messrs. Damon and Brown were members of the Councils, certain resolutions were passed to reform and reorganize the Board of Education. One of the resolutions required that a graded system of salaries should be adopted. In February, 1894, the Board was reorganized. One of its first duties was to carry out the resolutions adopted by Messrs. Damon and Brown and others of the Councils. And in doing this, evidence of favoritism certainly did appear as belonging to Mr. Damon's Board, and it became the unpleasant duty of the reorganized Board to scale down salaries of "Hattie this and Mary that," while at the same time the salaries of many of the very hard-worked teachers were increased. The Board spent more time over the system of grading salaries which now exists than upon any other matter. This is not a hard and fast rule, but is adhered to as far as possible, as the circumstances of the case will permit. I think that I may challenge Mr. Damon or Mr. Brown or any one else to show that the present system is not giving more general satisfaction than any which ever before existed.

It should be remembered that at present, under appropriation bill riders, not only the law, the entire income of the Board, including the school tax, goes directly into the Treasury, rendering it necessary to appropriate directly every cent required for the support of the educational system. These appropriations must necessarily increase with the growth of population, and this growth in the past few years has been most gratifying.

In 1888 there were 8720 pupils in all schools. At the present time there are 12,616, an increase of very nearly 5000. And it is well known by the Board that there are many children not in school because there are no school facilities. These must be provided for. Mr. Damon speaks of the enormous pay roll for 466 employees of the Board, but this means, with the \$250,000 passed, the average princely sum of \$42 per month.

The Board has estimated that for the year 1896 it can get along with \$16,000 a month; that for the year 1897 \$16,000 a month will be required, and yet the additional amount is not voted and placed directly under the control of the Board. This amount even is not sufficient, and the country could

much better afford to give the \$200,000 asked by the Board than it can the something over \$200,000 for the support of the military. This is not saying that the military is not needed.

The Board of Education serves with out pay. The positions are very responsible and many of its duties are very trying. I question whether at any time in past years as much time has been given as by the present Board to school matters.

The meetings have been longer and far more frequent. Committees have given much time to school matters, and I think that the conditions of the schools recently may well challenge comparison with former years.

In conclusion, allow me to say that I am neither a member of the Board nor in its employ nor in that of the Government, but I know whereof I speak. HAWAIIAN. Honolulu, March 6, 1896.

BATTLE OF WATERLOO.

Col. R. H. McLean's Lecture Saturday Night.

AN EXCELLENT DISCOURSE.

A Tribute to Napoleon—A Comparison with Wellington—Four Great Battle Fields—His Influence Over the Men—A Division of Opinion.

What was lacking in numbers in the audience at Y. M. C. A. Hall Saturday night to hear Colonel R. H. McLean's lecture on the "Battle of Waterloo," was fully made up in the enthusiasm shown.

The speaker showed himself capable to handle the subject. He has been a careful student of all affairs connected with Napoleon and the famous battle which resulted in his retirement. In speaking of the greatest of generals, Colonel McLean said:

"Napoleon is a subject upon which the world at large is greatly divided. Probably as a man one half the civilized world condemn, abhor and view many of his acts with horror, while the other half praise, admire and almost deify. But the whole world is almost unanimous that, as a soldier, he stands without a peer. His almost ceaseless activity, his transcendent genius on the battle field, his lightning military instinct, place him far beyond any soldier of ancient or modern times."

The speaker questioned the history of Alexander the Great, wherein he was credited with having defeated 1,000,000 Persians with an army of 60,000. He spoke of Wellington and his victories, but the iron duke and the battles he had won faded into insignificance compared with the "Little Corporal." Those of Wellington were not the crushing victories like Marengo and Austerlitz. The duke's opinion of the great Napoleon was to the effect that his arrival on the field of battle was equivalent to a reinforcement of 40,000 men.

He spoke of his visit to four of the most famous battle fields in which Napoleon's name has been associated. These were the Pyramids of Egypt; Marengo, in Italy, where anyone with instinct less sharp than Napoleon would have been defeated. Austerlitz, where Napoleon won his most famous victory, and Waterloo where, almost on the point of victory, he met his defeat.

The speaker gave his hearers a brilliant word picture of the battle of Waterloo, showing where the armies were placed and the disposition of the men. He proved his familiarity with the history of Napoleon and the famous battle by giving the time and details of the movements of the different sections of the army.

The audience was generous in its applause of Colonel McLean's efforts to give a brief history of Waterloo and the greatest general the world ever knew.

A riding horse with a saddle and bridle was caught in the vicinity of the boat landing Saturday night. At latest accounts, the horse, which had become a favorite of the boat boys, was still tied near the place of capture, feeding on grass.

All last winter Mr. G. O. A. Mills, of Lebanon, Conn., was badly afflicted with rheumatism. At times it was so severe that he could not stand up straight, but was drawn over on one side. "I tried different remedies without receiving relief," he says, "until about six months ago I bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. After using it or three days my rheumatism was gone and has not returned since. For sale by all druggists and dealers. BENSON, SMITH & CO., Agents for H. I.

THE TACK FELL SHORT.

A Story About an Opium Scheme.

CAPTAIN PARKER'S FUTILE TRIP.

A Sloop to Get a Cargo From the Australia—The Trip That Failed. Disgrace at Being Searched. Around Makapu Point—Etc.

Opium stories have commanded a premium lately, due perhaps to the fact that the contraband stuff has been a drug in the market and only those who have been hard pushed for money have made any attempt to land it.

There was a small invoice on the Australia, but owing to the difficulty of landing it safely, the stuff had to be carried away.

Before leaving, so the story goes, arrangements were made with the owner of a sloop to go around to the other side of the island and take a position in the vicinity of Makapu point, and then, when the Australia hove in sight, get up close to her, and the dope attached to a buoy would be thrown overboard and the men on the sloop could pick it up and bring it safely to town.

It just happened that on Tuesday night about the time the sloop was ready to sail, a retired captain who was lately in the employ of the Government appeared on the wharf and accepted an invitation to take a sail and departed with the party on board. This fact aroused the suspicions of others on the wharf and the fact

was communicated to the police department.

The following day Captain Parker and three officers left for Koolau to watch the little sloop. She was found off shore and some time afterward a boat containing three men was pulled ashore. When they made a landing they were promptly taken in charge by the officers and searched. Finding nothing a detail of men went out to the sloop and searched there with the same result. From a native boy on the sloop the story regarding the plan to get the opium was repeated with the addition that when the sloop made a tack in order to get alongside the Australia the wind shifted and the sloop fell short.

But here is the humorous side of the story. A gentleman with large interests in outside property and cattle ranches happened to have business in Koolau the day the sloop was searched. As he led his horse down the steep hill the other side of the Pali he met the ex-Government employee coming up the hill on foot and with his tongue hanging out from thirst. His first request was for directions how and where to find water.

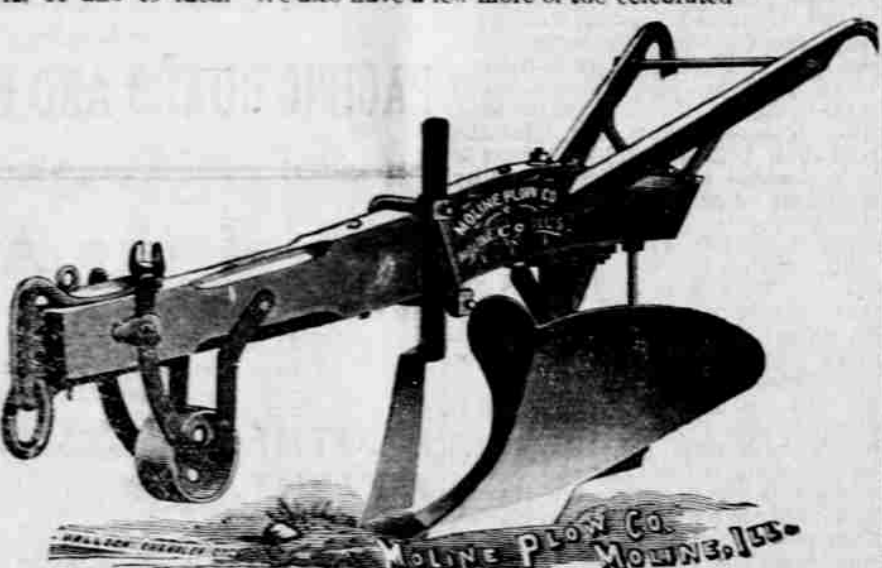
After receiving a chart the property owner asked him what he was doing on that side of the Pali and received the answer that he was just out for a walk and then bade his friend good-bye, but before he got away he was asked, "What is it worth a pound?" This of course was only in a joking way, because the ex-Government employee was never known to have anything to do with opium.

When the gentleman met Captain Parker a little later he heard the story of the search and of the anger of the man he met on the road.

It is expected that the sloop will be engaged to meet the Australia on her return voyage somewhere between here and Rabbit Island.

There is a Time

For everything. And NOW is the time to break up your ground for planting cane. Planters, after trying other kinds of breakers, have come back to the Hall Breakers as being the Best Kind in Use. We have sold a great many within a few weeks, but still have on hand a few 12, 14 and 15 inch. We also have a few more of the celebrated

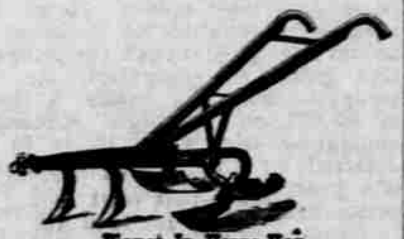


Hall's Furrow Plows:

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Also, Hall's Steel SIDE HILL BREAKERS, for use on hilly ground, and in use on many of the plantations in places where a steam plow or ordinary breaker will not work.

A number of years ago we introduced from Philadelphia the "Planet Jr. Horse Hoe," and have sold hundreds of them all over the Islands. It is one of the best cultivators ever used on a plantation. We are selling a great many now, and have a few left. Now is the time to use them. Constantly on hand all sizes of



Rice Plows, Harrows, Buckeye Mowers, And All Kinds of Agricultural Implements.

The Aluminum Cane Knife

That we have this year introduced has had a wonderful success. We got entirely out, but have just received a new lot. Read this letter:

Messrs. E. O. HALL & SON, Honolulu.
DEAR SIR:—Regarding the aluminum cane knives which you sold us some time ago, allow us to state that we have given to the utmost satisfaction, and we think them superior to any cane knife we have used. The knives are light and durable, and keep a very good edge. The handles are also a great improvement, and are well shaped for use. Our men always try to secure an aluminum knife in preference to others, which we think the very best recommendation. We remain, Yours truly, H. P. FAYE & CO.

We have received other letters just as commendatory.

The TROPIC OIL

For Engine and Cylinder is meeting with great success. We thought we had enough to carry us through the season, but have got entirely out. We are expecting a new supply, however, any day, and can supply any orders that may come in, besides some now on our books for delivery. The "Tropic" is a Very High Grade Oil and has given perfect satisfaction where it is being used.

E. O. HALL & SON.

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The undersigned having been appointed Agents of the above company are prepared to insure risks against fire on Stone and Brick Buildings and on Merchandise stored therein on the most favorable terms. For particulars apply at the office of F. A. SCHAEFER & CO., Agents.

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Having established an agency at Honolulu and the Hawaiian Islands the undersigned General Agents are authorized to take risks against the dangers of the seas at the most reasonable rates and on the most favorable terms.

F. A. SCHAEFER & CO., Agents for the Hawaiian Islands.

German Lloyd Marine Insurance Co

OF BERLIN.

Fortuna General Insurance Company

OF BERLIN.

The above Insurance Companies have established a General Agency here, and the undersigned, General Agents, are authorized to take risks against the dangers of the seas at the most reasonable rates and on the most favorable terms.

F. A. SCHAEFER & CO., Gnl. Agts.

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North German Fire Insurance Company

OF HAMBURG.

Capital of the company and reserve, reichsmarks 8,850,000
Capital their reinsurance companies 35,000,000

Total reichsmarks 43,850,000

The undersigned, General Agents of the above two companies for the Hawaiian Islands, are prepared to insure Buildings, Furniture, Merchandise and Produce, Machinery, etc., also Sugar and Rice Mills, and Vessels in the harbor, against loss or damage by fire on the most favorable terms.

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1—Authorized Capital, £3,000,000

Subscribed Capital, £2,750,000

Paid-up Capital 687,500 0 0

2—Fire Funds 2,410,992 7 3

3—Life and Annuity Funds 8,572,525 14 11

£11,671,018 2s. 2d.

Revenue Fire Branch 1,546,859 18 7

Revenue Life and Annuity Branches 1,359,821 16 9

£2,906,681 5 4

The accumulated funds of the Fire and Life Departments are free from liability in respect of each other.

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